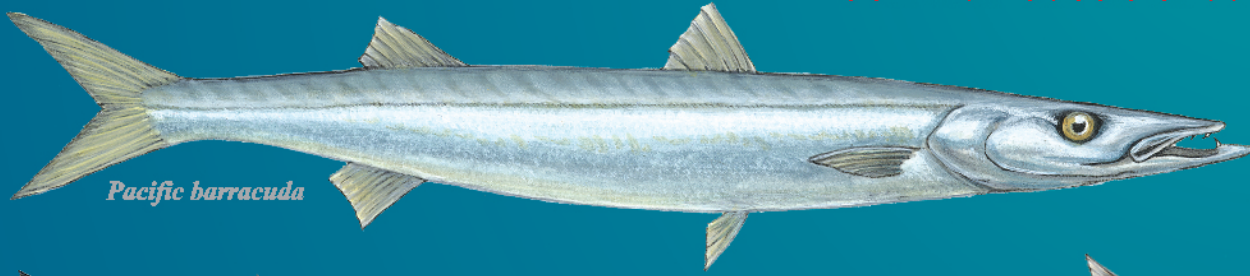


Fishing Resources in Southern California

Common Subsistence and Sport Fish



Pacific barracuda



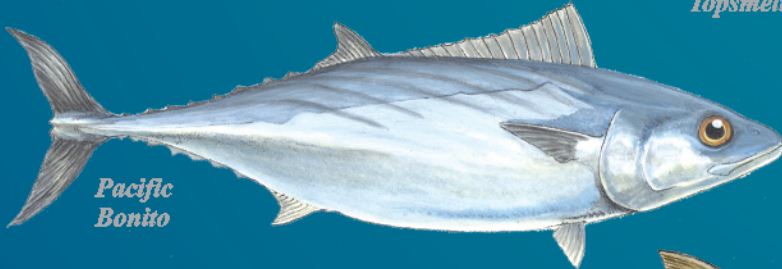
Jacksmelt



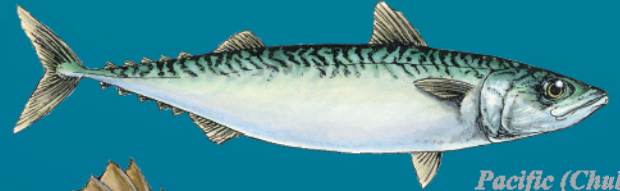
Topsmelt



Pacific sardine



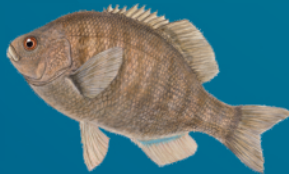
Pacific Bonito



Pacific (Chub) mackerel



Opaleye



Black perch



Kelp bass, calico bass



Barred sandbass



Barred surfperch



Sculpin, California scorpionfish



Copper rockfish



Yellowfin croaker



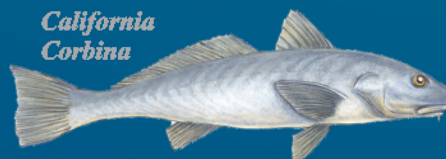
Queenfish



Black croaker



White croaker, kingfish, tomcod



California Corbina



Shovelnose guitarfish



California halibut



CABRILLO
MARINE
AQUARIUM





Montrose Settlements Restoration Program

DDTs and PCBs dumped in the ocean decades ago continue to contaminate marine fish in Southern California. The Montrose Settlements Restoration Program is taking actions to restore healthy fishing for the public.

What are DDTs and PCBs?

DDTs and PCBs are toxic mixtures of chemicals that are very slow to break down in the environment. Most of the DDTs and PCBs contaminating the marine environment near Los Angeles came from companies that dumped their waste chemicals into the local sewer system. The sewer system discharges its wastewater into the ocean near White Point, between San Pedro and Palos Verdes.

DDT was once one of the most widely used pesticides. One of the largest DDT factories in the world was located in Torrance, CA. It dumped hundreds of tons of waste DDT into the Los Angeles sewer system between the late 1940s and the early 1970s.

PCBs are oil-like chemicals that had many different industrial uses, such as making paints, transformer coolants, and hydraulic fluids.

What is the MSRP?

The Montrose Settlements Restoration Program (MSRP) is a partnership of six government agencies responsible as trustees for natural resources in Southern California. The agencies are:

- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration,
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
- National Park Service,
- California State Parks,
- California Department of Fish and Game,
- California State Lands Commission.

The federal and state governments settled a lawsuit in October 2000 with those responsible for discharging DDTs and PCBs into the ocean near Los Angeles. Some of the settlement monies are being used by MSRP to restore natural resources injured by these chemicals. Bringing healthier fishing opportunities to the public is a major goal of the program.

What is being done about fish contamination?

Cleaning up the environment.

Dumping DDTs and PCBs into the ocean ended decades ago, but more than 100 tons of these contaminants still remain in the ocean bottom sediments near Los Angeles, where they continue to contaminate fish, birds, and other animals in the coastal environment. The US EPA is studying ways to cap, clean or remove the contaminated sediments. For more information on EPA's actions, please visit the EPA website at www.epa.gov/region09/features/pvshelf/, or contact them at (800) 231-3075.

Survey of contaminated fish.

MSRP and EPA are conducting an extensive survey of contaminated fish along the Southern California coast. Information from this survey will be provided to the public and used to update local fishing advisories, as well as to plan local fishing restoration projects.

Public education.

MSRP has joined with US EPA, government health agencies, and local community groups to give the public accurate information about the contaminated fish problem in the Los Angeles-Orange County area.

Restoring healthier fishing.

MSRP has developed several projects aimed at providing anglers with more opportunities to fish for clean fish. These projects are outlined in the MSRP Final Restoration Plan.

For more information, contact:

Montrose Settlements Restoration Program
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-980-3236
msrp@noaa.gov
www.montroserestoration.gov

Fish Art: Evie Templeton, CMA; Technical Advisor: Jim Allen, SCCWRP; Graphic Design: Milena Viljoen, MSRP

Take Action!

Reduce your exposure to DDTs and PCBs.

☒ Fish Smart!

Some of the common fish along the Los Angeles coast are contaminated with the toxic chemicals DDTs and PCBs. The State of California has issued advisories to limit consumption of certain species in parts of the coast.

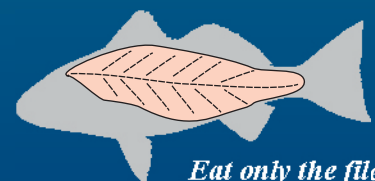
Use this Fish ID Card to know the fish you catch. For more information on fish and contaminants, you can:

- Look for signs posted at your local piers.
- Talk to the members of community groups distributing updated information about contaminated fish at fishing areas, health clinics and community events.
- Visit the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment website (which includes information in other languages) at:
<http://www.oehha.ca.gov/fish.html>.

☒ Cook Smart!

DDTs and PCBs build up in the fatty parts of fish. Try to cook in ways that reduce your fat intake, which can reduce your exposure to these chemicals.

- Before cooking, remove and throw away the head, guts, kidneys, liver, skin, fat and belly area.
- Eat only the filet, especially when making soups, stews or chowder.
- Bake, broil, steam or grill fish, instead of frying.
- Throw away the cooking juices, which can contain higher concentrations of these chemicals.



Eat only the filet!